Capitol news

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Gordon Mackae

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UNUSUAL TREATMENT of the subject by the photog, Otto Rothschild, makes this a striking study in monochrome. Thumping the bongo and conga tubs is, of course, Jack Costanzo, who has been featured with Cole's combo now for six months, and who, on September 15, will open with Nat at the Carnival Club in Minneapolis after a long visit on the west coast. Others in the unit are Irv Ashby, guitar, and Joe Comfort, bass.



Here's That Man Again . . .

The little man at the far end of the plank spun around on his stool and pointed his finger.

"No wonder things are all messed up in the music business." he snorted, tapping a plastic swizzle-stick atop the mahogany emphatically. "The disc jocks these days know more about records than the artists who make them and the guys who write for the mags are nearly as bad, mebbe worse.

"lust the other midnight some moaxe name of Dexter was spoutin' about Catalina Island and the Cubs and the Angels and how they've all gone to pot with P. K. Wrigley runnin' things.

"The Wrigley story," the little guy continued, "is very much the opposite. And if Dexter, whoever he is, and some of those velpin' sports writers would take a few minutes of their precious time they'd find that P. K. is doin' a job with the baseball and ove than 3,000,000 copies. And Catalina operations that his late Pop would applaud.

"Yeah, I'll have another and here's health to you.

"It was P. K. who launched the name band policy at Catalina, not his pappy, as Dexter maintains. And whoever told him that the fine old Bob Crosby band bagged \$7,500 a week at the Catalina Casino? Those Dixielanders were paid just about half that much both times they were booked there, back in '40 and '41.

"Have you seen Catalina lately? Sure, some of the kids in service roughed it up a bit during the war, but they've stroked a lot of paint on the island since 1945 and it looks sharp and neat these days and can you name me a resort that is more attractive?

"More people, day in and day out, hie themselves over to Catalina now than ever did before P. K. came on the scene. But the elder Wrigley was a colorful character, a plunger, and his boy is capable, reserved, soft-spoken and almost shy.

"And as for baseball-please, Bub, allow me this time, I had a big one romp in today at Del Mar-the Cubs and Angels may be cellar clubs this season, but under young Wrigley's hand both teams have racked up more pennants than they ever did durin his dad's era. Why, since 1932, when P. K. took over, the Cub have toted home four titles, more than any other National League outfit except the Cards. Los Angeles' Angels have run eigh pennants up their flagpole since '32 and you know who rates next? Seattle and Portland, and they've only won the bunting three times each.

"And so, like Bix Beiderbecke's roommates, the legend grow and grows and guys like Dexter who are sore because the Wrigley ball clubs smell, for the moment, go on wishin' for 'the good old days.' P. K. can't very well protest Dexter's views. He's a rich man's son, and heir.

"Why yes I would, and hit the ice a mite more if you please.

"Ah, now that's good for whatever may ail you. You know somethin'? If I wasn't so busy I'd write that bum, Drexler or whatever his name is, a hot letter and tell 'im off right ... and lissen, Bub, you got anything good in the first tomorrow at Arlington?"

1868 'Hope' Song May Become One Of 1949's Big Hits

One of the most amazing "revivals" in American musical story is taking place this month.

heant nothing until the 1920's agreed to record it. hen Alma Gluck and Louise omer recorded it as a duet. he two gals had a way with he ballad; it is said to have sold en it was forgotten.

Recently, Paul Weston recalled e old Gluck-Homer disc. His



RAY ANTHONY'S swift climb as bandleader has been helped in tent months by the singing of Ada Leonard, who formerly led ject. The photo shows why.

"Whispering Hope" was father had bought the original omposed by Septimus Winner plate when it was the rage, and who used a phony composer's as a child Weston heard the tune ame, "Alice Hawthorne") as hundreds of times. He decided to spring it on 1949 record fans. ar back as 1868. But the tune Jo Stafford and Gordie MacRae

No Royalties For Writer

Well, that's the background on the fastest-selling record in the world as of September, 1949exactly 81 years fter Winner wrote it. Winner is the loser in the story, because the song now is in public domain and he or his swooney versions of "Close Your heirs will get no royalties. But he Eyes" and "Deep As The River" most certainly, on the other hand, doesn't care. He's been dead since 1902.

And Jo, Gordie and Paul may find themselves with the biggest wax click of the year. It's heading that way.

Winner also is recalled as the gent who peddled his "Listen To From H'wood the Mocking Bird" ditty for a flat \$5. It later earned \$3,000,000 and sold 20 million copies of sheet Hollywood to start his new music. The guy may have even weekly airshow for a ciggie been the most mis-named guy in history, for he wound up being a one-time loser, in jail, as a result of composing a "politically subversive" ditty which advocated the return of Gen. McClellan.

A "Dare You" Disc

"Whispering Hope" is one of those "I dare you play it five times records." If you'll listen as MacRae and Stafford match vibratos to Weston's backgrounds, you'll find its words bear solace-or something-to anyone who has ever lost anything.

Leonard To N. O.

Baldwin. The chicks flock an all-girl dance band, left the ound the handsome Anthony and coast for New Orleans and an Aug. for Chesterfield over CBS Sept. strumpet, but their escorts never 15 opening at the Moulin Rouge 21, a half-hour every week, from Club. She's doing a single.



WATCH OUT for this fast-rising young New York baritone, Harry Belafonte, who has been ringing up triumphs in eastern niteries with his sock singing style. Belafonte also will make his debut as a Capitol artist this month with accompanied by Pete Rugolo's mus-

Como To Air

Perry Como just arrived in

Como will have a half-hour to himself every Thursday over NBC's skein. Bing Crosby also will be caroling for the same sponsor this fall and winter over rival web CBS.

Perry will tape his first halfdozen programs and he promises to feature considerable comedy and even dramatic skits on his forthcoming series, a radical departure from his "Supper Club" stanzas of last season. His first show will be aired nationally either Sept. 8 or 15. Hollywood musicians will background his croonings.

Croz Airs Sept. 21

Bing Crosby starts his new series Hollywood.

WHEN FRANK Sinatra starts his new series of programs over NBC Sept. 5 for a tobacco sponsor, he will be crooning without the help of his sidekick, Axel Stordahl. But despite rumors of a "falling out" between the two pals, who have been professionally inseparable since they worked together under Tommy Dorsey, the real reason as to why Stordahl won't be connected with the new series is simple: Stordahl's fee is too high.

Jeff Alexander will take over. The show will be heard five nights a week in the same spot where the "Supper Club" aired Crosby held down. last season for a rival ciggie manufacturer. Dorothy Kirsten also will be featured.

Sinatra also will begin a day-

Tommy Dorsey, on the other hand, is dropping his disc jock show after two years. He said it was "just too much effort" while out on the road with his band. He also said it had proved "extremely profitable" for all concerned.

Maurice Rocco booked into Larry Potter's, North Hollywood, starting Sept. 27. One of Potter's current attractions is Cleo Brown, boog-woog pianist and singer, who is making a strong comeback after a long illness.

Apparently recovered from her illness, Judy Garland has approved MGM's plans to star her in "Summer Stock" in October.

Harry Belafonte will co-star with the Charlie Parker and Len Tris-Symphony Sid Torin will emcee. Local 47 members.

Back from his Honolulu honeymoon with the former Nora Flynn, Dick Haymes is emseeing the Club 15 CBS stanzas in the spot Bob

Johnny Mercer and Harold Arlen (they did "Old Black Magic" together) are teaming up again with new songs for three flicks, "Petty time disc jockey series over Girl," "Virgin Island" and "A the Mutual web in late September Mother For May." Studio is trying at a reported \$2,500 a week. to get Buddy Clark to do the ghost Sinatra will record his gab on tape. singing for Bill Holden in the "Mother" picture.

> Bob Hilliard, songwriter who turned out "Careless Hands" and other hits, up and wed the screen's "cave girl," Jacqueline Dalya, in Las Vegas on Aug. 9. He's back at work at Walt Disney's cleffing "Fun Fair" ABC program. Boxo's tunes and they won't be able to take a honeymoon until October.

> of "resorting" with two women children's records in sales. on Aug. 10, despite Wingy's testimony that he was innocent and that the arresting officer slugged him after making the pinch. Sen- stand at Salt Lake City Sept. 28 tence was to be announced later.

> The Mary Kaye Trio will open at the Last Frontier, Las Vegas, on racked up new records at Ciro's Sept. 10 for four weeks.

Johnny Green cleaned out a batch strong in the nation's theatres tano combos when the Birdland of MGM musicians and brought and will prove a big winner. opens in New York Sept. 8. Spot in a host of new ones when he They'll make another pic soon, actually is the old Clique Club took over the reins as head of with Martin's singing featured. and will attempt to lure patrons MGM's music department last interested in bop (although Bela- month, It was the biggest Hollyfonte is a straight singer). WJZ's wood shakeup in years among neapolis and St. Louis supper clubs



BOZO. THE most beloved clown in the world, gave little Donny Fenton the thrill of his life last month when he presented him a pedigreed puppy on Jay Stewart's exciting experiences in record albums have made him internationally known; his discs for three Wingy Manone was found guilty years have regularly topped all

> Tex Beneke's band enters the far west again for a four-night Band will hit the Hollywood Palladium later this fall.

> Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis in August, and their first movie, "My Friend Irma," is starting

> Lena Horne is appearing in Minthis month.

Nine Musicals Boost WB Output 300%

In line with the recent optimistic trend of the music biz. Warner Brothers has revealed that its production of film musicals for 1949 will top the 1948 figure by a fat and solid 300 percent.

Nine are on the current calendar, three of them being prepared, two in actual production, two just completed and two having been released recently.

The studio, quick to sense the appeal of melody (and girlies) as a change of pace from the flood of serious dramas, is making big earnings on "Look For the Silver Lining" and "It's a Great Feeling." The three ready to go before the cameras include "No, No Nanette" starring Doris Day and Gordie MacRae; "The West Point Story" with Jimmy Cagney, and "We're Working Our Way Through College."

The two recently-completed pix are Danny Kaye's "Inspector General" and "Young Man With a Horn" (see separate story for details). Two still shooting include "The Daughter of Rosie O'Grady" and "Young Man With a Horn," with Milton Berle. Five of the nine are in Technicolor.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer also is swinging into a heavy fall and winter musical schedule, at least two of which will be shot in color. The big Culver City studio has on its roster, in addition to Betty Hutton, now working at MGM on loan from Paramount in "Annie Get Your Gun," such box-office titans as Judy Garland, Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Betty Garrett, Vera Ellen and others. But WB will be the leader, at least this year.



DANNY KAYE joined in with Buzz Adlam, network maestro, for tions at the New York Palace a special program under auspices of the American Cancer Society and in other cities. It will mean recently. Kaye, who recently charmed England during his second ap- new employment possibilities for pearance at the London Palladium, will be busy this fall facing the showmen and musicians on the kleigs at Warner Brothers.



THIS IS the way Marion Colby will look in a new musical short featuring Skinnay Ennis and his band soon to be released by Uniserval - International. She's the singing star of Broadway musical shows; Ennis hails from North Carolina and once was a drummersinger with Hal Kemp.

James Goes East

Harry James and his musicians head east early in September on another long tour which will keep them away from the coast until November. James, who has completed recording for the soundtrack of the "Young Man With a Horn" movie, also just finished a vacation at Del Mar, where his nags run.

Vaude For L. A.

Sherrill Corwin, who operates the L. A. Orpheum, was prepared to start a weekly vaudeville policy at the downtown house on Aug. 31 in the wake of similar opera-

Sugar Chile Cuts His First Discs

Sugar Chile Robinson has changed his mind.

After holding out four years, the 9-year-old pianist and singer has decided to make records.

"I wanted to be sure," he says. "My daddy kept telling me there wasn't any hurry, that I had plenty of time. But I'm ready now and I think I can play the way I want to play now that I'm growing up.

"Until a year or so ago I was just a little kid."

month he took time out from a king-sized. week at the Million Dollar Theater



mid-August following Tom Dorsey, Tigers. and will probably remain at the "But it won't be like all those of his vacation commuting with Ocean Park (Cal.) ballroom through other tunes about girls," he pro- nature far up in the Pacific North-Labor Day.

ible proof that little Sugar, who bowled over President Truman at a fancy Washington party in And that's the way the little 1946, is no moppet when it comes Detroit virtuoso reasons - last to appeal. His music is strictly

With Zutty Singleton on drums in Los Angeles to wax his first and Leonard Bibb on bass, Sugar sides. And this month they'll be Chile rambled through the "Numreleased throughout the land, aud- bers Boogie" and "After School Blues." They'll come out backto-back on the purple Cap label.

> One of six children, Sugar Chile (he was christened Frank) actually was playing the piano when he was 2. Before he was 5 he was playing professionally. He Robinson got a lot of info on credits Frankie Carle with "giving me a start when others said I first records for Capitol. Here he was too little to play."

The pint-sized prodigy is 46 inches high and weighs 66 pounds. His hobbies include comic books. television shows, riding his bike and baseball. Booked by Joe Glaser's Long Rest For and baseball. Booked by Joe Glaser's ABC agency, Sugar Chile has even been featured in a big movie, MGM's "No Leave, No Love."

longer carries the cold stuff. He travels with his son, who is getting over the big Hollywood Palan education via a tutor.

ever, composing new tunes for records. He once earned more than \$12,000 for a single week in a BENNY STRONG'S glamor de- theater (on a percentage of the partment is headed by Betty gross) but writing original blues Bryan, who shares vocal chores in and boogie numbers, he says, is Strong's band with Benny him- far more interesting. He thinks self. The band was a surprise at- his next composition will be about traction at the Casino Gardens in his puppy. Or maybe the Detroit Pally this trip. It was said that



FIRST DATE . . . Sugar Chile drumming the day he waxed his snaps a snare with Zutty Singleton -one of the best-on his first disc date in Hollywood.

Frankie Carle

With Lawrence Welk's And his father, an iceman, no "champagne music" taking ladium bandstand as August Now Sugar Chile is busier than ended, Frankie Carle called a four-week tacit for his band members and said he was "going to get lost" until the Carle crew opens the Shamrock Hotel in Houston on Oct. 6.

> Carle, who owns a good-sized ranch in the Valley outside Hollywood, completed five weeks at the Frankie would spend at least part west mountain country.

'Stop Screaming,' Dorsey Cries

Bands Are Not Doin' So Bad!

"The frantic period of music has ended. People want to dance again, not sit still and listen to some kid trumpet player squeeze notes that only a dog can hear."

Tommy Dorsey said that last month as his band closed at Casino Gardens Ballroom and prepared to ride the big bus east after a stay of less than three weeks in California.

And of all the big name leaders around these days, Dorsey appears to be best qualified to evaluate the status of current dance music trends. His band has played in 38 states in the last year, and before his coming tour ends, the sentimental gentleman with the crew cut figures he will have covered eight or nine more.

"Fads Come And Go"

One of the veterans in music and jazz circles. TD has been blowing his gold sliphorn 25 years professionally. "I've seen crazy fads in music come and go," he says. "The music in demand right now is melodic stuff, with a good beat. You'll notice that the other extreme in music, the banjos and all that ridiculous stuff made popular because folks simply couldn't understand the frantic, so-called 'progressive' stuff, also is fading out. We're definitely entering an era of sane music.

"We've learned that all the way from New England to San Diego." Dorsey argues that business isn't as bad as some of the pessimists

declare it to be.

"They should stop screaming about bum biz." Dorsey told the Cap News. "No band is doing as well as bands did a few years back the fall and winter of 1939-40. is doomed. Only one person—a and features strings.



FACING THE big television cameras at KLAC-TV last month in Los Angeles, Tommy Dorsey worked up a sweat with his trombone, his drummer Lou Bellson and his trumpet star, Charlie Shavers. TD also teamed with young Sugar Chile Robinson for a knocked-out, mad duet. The show is emseed by Don Otis, pictured here with the sentimental gentleman, Bellson and Shavers.

Not Enthused Over TV

Although Tom, whose short, close-cut hair is as grey as a destroyer's bow, is interested in television—he put on a great show for Don Otis on KLAC-TV in Aug- are expecting a youngster this ust-he asserts that it will be "some time yet" before bands can offer really sock entertainment interest in music than he ever has via the video medium.

"Who wants to sit in their living room watching 16 guys reading music?" he asks. "It will require smart showmanship for a band to achieve TV popularity. Something

Dorsey indicated his willingness to add the "extra" on the Otis telecast when he played trombone solos against the piano and vocal exhibitions of young Sugar Chile Robinson. Drummer Lou Bellson and Charlie Shavers, trumpeter, also originally intended to star Judy contributed entertaining solo bits without sacrificing their high musicianship standards.

Steve Allen, KNX-CBS wit who King For Biltmore during the crazy, wild-spending airs at midnight nightly, asked The Hotel Biltmore, Los Angeles,

"I have even gone back and young man-raised his hand in checked my books of a decade ago. disagreement. The following night, We are doing a lot better now in presenting Woody Herman, who than we did then. Business isn't opposed Dorsey violently, Allen bad-it's just returning to normal." again asked 200 in the audience how they felt. Only one person agreed with Herman. "And." guipped Allen, "I think it was the same young man."

Tommy and his bride of last year fall. But Dorsey, who claims he is working harder now to hypo in the past, says he won't be able to take it easy. His band will go up into Canada this month and will wind up, next winter, at the New York Statler.

MGM Puts 'Annie' **Before Cameras**

Betty Hutton has checked into MGM and the cameras were set to roll Sept. 1 on the long-delayed filming of "Annie Get Your Gun," Garland. Hutton just wound up work in Paramount's "Let's Dance" with Fred Astaire.

war years. But most bands this about 200 members of the audi- swings into the promising fall seafall and winter will do 25 to 50 ence if they agreed with Dorsey's son with Henry King's music openper cent better than they did in statement that the "frantic stuff" ing on Sept. 15. King plays piano

Wakely In \$2,000 Class; Dolan Lands **On Wax With Guitar**

limmy Wakely moves up into the hot money class this November when he trains to Las Vegas to appear in person at ary singing and gitbox talents. the Thunderbird for two weeks at \$2,000 per. It's one of the highest fees ever paid an artist will work strictly as a singlewith only his guitar for backgrounds.

Wakely also signed a new long-term contract with Capitol, for records, which will insure a steady stream of bestselling western biscuits for several years to come. He also split with his movie studio, preferring to free lance at other film factories.

Hoppy Draws 55,000

Many other western stars are going out on the road this month. Hopalong Cassidy already has left, tastic" crowds on his personal appearances in key cities. On a recent Saturday afternoon in Los Angeles, at a department store 000 persons.

gan Fair this month.

In Hollywood, young and handsome Jimmie Dolan has suddenly popped up into the western spotlight as a result of his extraordin-

Five Years In Navy

A real westerner, Jimmie was born and grew up on the sagebrush side of the Rockies. In the by the Nevada spot and Jimmy Navy—he served nearly five years with distinction—he worked up from apprentice seaman to chief radioman, and he entertained thousands of guys out in the South Pacific with his music.

> Settling down in California after VJ-Day, Dolan landed a job on a radio station and started buliding a big audience of fans. Now-and this is the big news in his career 'Dixie lamboree' -limmie is heard on Capitol shellacs, his first disc just having To Be Held Again been released nationally.

8 Tunes Set For Milton Berle Film

"Always Leave Them Laughing" and is said to be drawing "fan- will have eight tunes, but Warner's declares it is not a musical. The film, which stars Milton Berle, is all comedy. The songs, all new, event was so successful it drew the were composed by Berle and Sam second largest crowd in the hisappearance, he actually drew 55,- Cahn. It is just finishing up and tory of jazz concerts. Stan Kenton won't be released until next year. holds the world's record for his Tex Ritter plays the big Michi- Berle heads east to resume his TV June 12, 1948, performance in show this month.



MEET IIMMIE, limmie Dolan, who's been strumming a guitar since he was 10 and who, as a navy gob, entertained thousands of fighting men in the South Pacific during the war. Dolan this month realized his ambition-his first record was released and it looms as a likely hit in the western field.

Frank Bull and Gene Norman are preparing to offer their "Dixieland Jamboree" for the second straight year in mid-October at the Shrine, Los Angeles. They are trying to land Mugs Spanier and Sidney Bechet as headliners.

Last year, at Pan-Pacific, the Hollywood Bowl.





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Gordie MacRae Piles Film Successes Atop Disc, Air Popularity

(September Cover Feature)

Gordon MacRae figures that singing is the finest thing since

Not too many years back he tromped all over Radio City, New York, as a guide. From one radio studio to another, over the Music Hall and down through the underground arcades Cordie walked, pointing out architectural oddities and mumbling statistics to out-of-towners.

of home every night he was it's an asset to a performer.

Will Co-Star With Day

Moviegoers are seeing MacRae nese days, with June Haver and av Bolger, in "Look For the Silver ining," a big - budget musical hich - MacRae concedes it is onic-has done the biggest busiess of any film to play the Radio ity Music Hall this year. He so has finished work in "The eturn Of the Frontiersman," in which he looks like anything but al version of the old Broadway year shortly. musical, "No, No, Nannette."

biggest break in films yet."

No Violet, He

Just 29, Gordie has done all his acting for Warner Brothers. He considers himself a pretty lucky

He is happily married, he's the

His bosses lined up Gordie There's nothing modest about very morning, along with the MacRae. He's a lot like Sinatra that way—they both know what ther smartly uniformed guides, they can do and they have no thecking the crease in his doubts about their own talents. ants, the shine on his shoes. In show business that trait is ne part of his hair. But when he called "brass" or "moxie." And

> in pictures because of his singing MacRae now goes around looking ability. Tests indicated he might like this in Hollywood. But only be developed as an actor. MacRae in the movies-this scene is from agreed that he thought he could "The Return Of the Frontiersact and promptly started acting, man" which Gordie recently comproficiently enough to land im- pleted for Warner Brothers. See portant roles in important pictures story at left for the secret behind right from the start.

Success In Radio Too

The same was true in radio. He told his agent he could handle a network show of his own and then Coast Rave n immaculate, shining guide. And proved it. His "Railroad" program text month he goes into a filmusi- over ABC will enter its second

"In this one," Mac says, "Doris itical wheel comes along and asks Quartet is the latest to draw Day will co-star and William Jacobs Gordie if could handle the job of will be the producer. It's my vice president of the United States?

You said it-MacRae would be insulted. The presidency is the least for which he'd settle. And a singing prexy at that.

Barnet Goes North

appy of three fine youngsters, his off on a long trek into the Pacific Alyce Hall, plays nightly with Casapitol records are among that Northwest after playing week- cales at the Trails, on Sepulveda ompany's best-sellers consistent- ends, last month, at Balboa Beach, at Centinella. Teaming with him his golf game is improving and Cal. One of the dates this month, and the leader's bass are Edith owns a 10-room house in San on the 17th, is at Dainville, Mont., Hylan, vocalist and pert shaker of ernando Valley just outside Holly- which has never before seen a claves and bongo drums, and "name" crew.



ONCE AN immaculate guide in Gordie, of course, got his chance New York's Radio City, Gordon MacRae's success.

Ex-Swede New

A Swedish - born musician who now is working in Holly-What happens if some big pol- wood with the Jacque Cascales the raves of fellow union members

An accordionist, Lee Forsblad is now a naturalized American. During the war he served in the European theater and for a time was a prisoner in a German camp.

Forsblad, whose style is "dif-Charlie Barnet and his ork are ferent" from Mooney, Felice and Trumpeter Ed Casey.



JUNE AND BOB Crosby await the opening of school this month with anxiety, for the Crosby household all summer has rivaled a waterhole on the Sahara for sprightly activity. The little Bobs include Stevie, Cathy, Chris and Bob, Jr. Big Bob is just getting back to Hollywood after a long theater tour of the east.

Stafford And Hope Head For Michigan

Jo Stafford's oft-postponed trip back east will finally materialize this month, and will be climaxed when she makes a five-day personal appearance stand at the big Michigan the way to Council Cluffs, la., for State Fair Sept. 5 through 9

A half-dozen of the nation's topflight dance bands also are ing Hope" with Gordon MacRae ter?—a Sept. 23 opening at the booked for the Fair, and Bob cago after her Michigan date to Hope and other entertainers open at the Chicago Theater on of records between jumps!! will appear, along with Jo, in Sept. 23. She'll probably stay

MEET THE JOCKEY!

ONLY 17, but a Sunday morning wax-whirler for two years, is Dorothy Shay To Wally George of KIEV in Glendale,



Cal. He's a busy

frequently over Los Angeles TV stations. A native Norvo Flips East "soon."

With her discing of "Whisper- can't they make those jumps sofriding high, Jo slants off to Chi- Chez Maurice in Montreal. there two weeks before moving on to New York and a couple of weeks at the New York Paramount and other eastern houses.

Cocoanut Grove

Dorothy Shay returns to the spins shellacs, Cocoanut Grove of the L. A. Hotel Your Troubles In Dreams," "I Sursings songs into Ambassador in September. And render, Dear" and a dozen other an open mike opening with her will be the new classics, opened Aug. 3 as a pianoand interviews orchestra of Ray Hackett, who is pounding single at Nick Arden's top recording better known in San Francisco eatery in North Hollywood. stars. To date as an NBC music director. On her he has two fan last appearance at the Grove, La clubs, and he's Shay smashed all previous marks resumed broadcasts over CBS Aug. also being seen for a solo singer.

of San Mateo Park, Wally has Red Norvo, who has been in- under Oxydol sponsorship. Frank garnered a loyal teen-aged audi- active several months as a band- DeVol is back with him again, ence. But his ambition is to have leader, departed his home in leading the band, and the show his own coast to coast show Santa Monica, Cal., and is headed also features Margaret Whiting and for New York.

trouping all over the land, from New York to San Francisco. Mel Torme finally got back home to Hollywod on Aug. 30. He's heading the show at the

But the ways of bookers are strange, and Melvin has a rugged route assigned him starting Sept. 13, when he takes to the road again on a sleeper jump to Winnipeg on the first leg of what seems, to him, an endless tour.

Two weeks at home in a year. No wonder they say his songs are

The same can be said for Nel Lutcher, now in San lose after a brief stint at the Casbah ahead of Torme. On Sept. 9 she hops all a week at the Stork and then-

And both had to make a batch

Margaret Whiting planning a series of fall concerts on west coast college campuses this fall. She'll be able to appear only on weekends because of her CBS airshows Mondays and Fridays.

Harry Barris, composer of "Wrap

When Jack Smith (see page 16) 29 after a summer in Europe, network statisticians gleefully calculated that it was his 903rd program Dinah Shore through the week.



THIS IS ALL a bit involved, but the weird musical instrument which an Uncle Sam's postman is pictured delivering to Mary Kaye, of the Mary Kaye Trio in Hollywood, was sent her by a fan in Hawaii. It is called a "canoe guitar" and actually makes music. But, Mary says, when inverted and put in water it floats and serves as a small boat. Back in the old days the Hawaiian swains paddled from island to island in craft like this, the better to serenade their sweeties.

Thunderbird Next For Clark Dennis

on Sept. 1 at the Thunderbird in bases in Europe. Las Vegas at a salary fee of \$1,000 a week. The tenor, now tured with Paul Whiteman's troupe, up solid profits on most dates. will limit his Las Vegas date to two weeks, he said, because of autumn months.



THE MASSIVE Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, although allowing occasional jazz concerts, has persistently banned dancing since Jimmie Lunceford's old band virtually tore the joint apart several years ago. But this month—the night of Sept. 4—the Shrine's management will accept \$1,000 as a rental fee for one night and allow Lionel Hampton's powerhouse aggregation to play for won't have it-that the St. Louis terpsters in the adjacent pa- Brownies are in town.

No reason was given for the to his musicians and singers. it is figured a powerful gross will result, likely topping the Hamp's draw of 3,600 persons last year at the smaller Avodon.

Back from his boffy p. a. at the big London Palladium, Benny Goodman said it appears "pretty definite" that he will return there orchestra because of the British soundtrack technique. Musicians' Union ban, Goodman toured many of the British jazz clubs and was "strongly impressed" with what he heard.

Also due back in Hollywood this month will be Allan Jones, who has been touring Great Britain six months. In November he will set out on a concert tour, opening at the Chi Blackstone.

Page Cavanaugh's Trio due at the Casbah, Los Angeles, in Octo-Clark Dennis was ready to open ber after a tour of U. S. Air Force

Les Brown's troupe pulls into heading his own airshow over Hollywood early this month after ABC, and for several seasons fea- an all-summer tour which rang

Peggy Lee and Dave Barbour mer trumpet tooter with Harry radio commitments in Hollywood. play the Michigan State Fair Sept. James' Music Makers, committed He also faces a stiff recording 2-4 and then open, on the fifth, suicide at his home in L. A. Aug. schedule, for Capitol, during the for a week, at the Bowery in De- 6. Relatives said he had been troit. That's the week-as luck despondent in recent months.

Esther Williams' hubby, Ben switch in policy. The Hamp will Gage, a former dance band singer, present several acts in addition nabbed a dog food manufacturer as sponsor of his KTTV video show. He and Esther also parented, last With space for 8,000 dancers, month, a son whom they've tagged

> The '49 Greek Theater season in Los Angeles winds up Sept 5-17 when Gene Mann presents "Carmen Jones."

Frank DeVol is cleffing a "Guide To Arranging" book for the E. H. next April or May, even though he Morris music firm. It will include won't be able to take his full a chapter, he says, on movie

> Jane and Jimmy Dorsey's marriage of 22 years came to an end last month in Los Angeles when Mrs. Dorsey filed suit for divorce. The bandleader's blonde wife said that a property settlement had been arranged which calls for her to receive the Dorsey home at Toluca Lake and \$850 a month in addition to 25 per cent of ID's earnings above \$25,000 a year.

> Also filing for divorce in Los Angeles was Margaret Whiting, from Hubbell Robinson, radio network executive. Under California law divorces are not final, even after they've been granted, until 12 months later.

Joe Myers, 35, said to be a for-

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CAPITOL NEWS

Dime A Dozen



BENNY STRONG: Casino Gardens. LAWRENCE WELK: Palladium. PETE DAILY: Spivak's Monkey Room

RED NICHOLS: Hangover Club. KID ORY: Beverly Cavern. MARVIN IOHNSON: York Club. MEL TORME: Casbah. LEIGHTON NOBLE: Catalina.

ARTHUR VAN: Colonial Ballroom. MARY KAYE TRIO: Bar of Music. ZUTTY SINGLETON: Club 47. NICK ESPOSITO: Melodee Club. POISON GARDNER: Astor's. CLAUDINE CARTIER: Music Box.

BUDDY WORTH: Oasis. AL LYONS: Earl Carroll's. SLEEPY CARSON: Irish World. TEX WILLIAMS: Riverside Rancho. SIGMUND SCHATZ: Bublichki. HENRY KING: Biltmore Hotel opening Sept. 15.

GEECHIE SMITH: Crane's Club. HAROLD STERN: Chanteclair.

Musicians Get Studios' OK

Musicians who are regularly employed in the big Hollywood film studios need not worry crew. about their jobs for at least two more years.

signed on Aug. 15 by the studios with the American Federation of Musicians. The new contracts are vide that every musician be guaranteed at least \$6,916 a year based on 520 work hours. Leaders of orchestras are paid double.

MCM, 20th - Fox and Warner \$41,200 Profits Brothers are bound by contract to employ standing orks of at fective until Sept. 1, 1951.



Horn' Flick In The Cans

With work on "Young Man With a Horn" virtually ended, the net result now rests with the editors and cutting men over at Warner Brothers. Musicians who drew paychecks for their work include Harry James, limmy Zito, Buddy Cole, Nick Fatool, Art Bernstein, Archie Rosate, Hoyt Bohannon and members of Ray Heindorf's WB studio

Zutty Singleton, called to the studio for a drumming role, was The reason? New contracts were nixed by a studio bigwig because he "didn't look like a colored drummer." Doris Day, Kirk Douglas and Lauren Bacall star in the film. exactly like the old ones, and pro- based on the Dorothy Baker novel of a decade ago.

Woody, Nat Split

Woody Herman's band and King right leg, dull party. least 50 men, Paramount must Cole and his Trio collected grosses hire 45 and Universal, Republic, of \$76,950 on their August tour Columbia and RKO-Pathe 36 men of the west coast, and of that each. There was no bickering over sum they divided up their endthe new agreement, which is ef- a fat \$41,200. The jaunt com- ary on Bing Crosby's coming fall prised 14 one-night stands.

HERD TRIO . . . Terry Gibbs at the vibes. Vocalist Mary Ann Mc-Call and Sammy Marowitz, lead alto, are to be heard with the Woody Herman herd on their September barnstorming spree across the nation. The band will appear in Nebraska, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and South Dakota between Sept. 2 and 30. This shot was made just a few weeks ago, in Hollywood, when Woody waxed a batch of new faces for Capitol which will be released during the fall and winter months

Or, a Pool Full Of Nothing...

Tim Spencer, who composed the current hit, "Room Full of Roses," has been receiving more than his share of posies at his California home since the night he threw a party celebrating the ditty's suc-

Just before the guests started arriving, Tim backed into the deep end of his swimming pool-a faux pas of the first water. There wasn't any water in the pool. Score: busted left leg, sprained

Bing's Gal Set

Carol Richards, California songstress, will be the first guest can-



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Kicks In Merrie England



CLIMAXING THEIR visit to London last month, Jack Smith, Frank DeVol and Benny Goodman wound up in the B. B. C. studios for personal appearances on the famous "In Town Tonight" program, a show on which only a few Americans have ever been featured. Smith and

DeVol were merely vacationing; Goodman was working the Palladium. All three have since returned home with nothing but praise for the folk they met across the pond, and all three plan to go over again sometime in 1950. Wives of the three artists made the trip, too.